

Unmanned Level Crossings

2295. SHRIMATI CHANDRA KALA PANDEY:
SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 509, given in the Rajya Sabha on 3rd December, 1999 and state:

- (a) the number of unmanned level crossing manned during year 1999-2000;
- (b) the expenditure incurred on the same; and
- (c) the number of level crossings proposed for manning in 2000-2001 from Railways own resources and from the money allocated from National Highway fund??

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) The work of manning of 53 unmanned level crossings was completed during 1999-2000. Another 686 unmanned level crossings were sanctioned for manning during 1999-2000.

(b) Expenditure of Rs. 4 crores approximately had been incurred on manning of 53 unmanned level crossing during year 1999-2000.

(c) 602 nos. level crossings have been sanctioned for manning during 2000-2001 in addition to what had been sanctioned in earlier years.

Unclean Nature at Railway Stations

2296. SHRI R. MARGABANDU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that tracks and platforms at all the railway stations are unclean due to human wastage and other unwanted ugly particles;
- (b) if so, the steps taken to clean the platforms and rail tracks, so far;
- (c) what is the result of such action; and
- (d) whether Government are aware that due to this unclean

[11 August, 2000]

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nature at railway stations lot of diseases spread among public, if so, how Government would tackle this issue in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) to (c) No, Sir. The track and platforms at all the railway stations are not unclean. While the stations are cleaned on regular basis, cases of unsatisfactory cleanliness at some stations have come to notice. Regular checks regarding cleanliness at platforms and tracks are conducted by the officers/supervisors and corrective action is taken as deemed fit. A number of initiatives have been taken for improving sanitation which include introduction of 'Pay as Use' scheme of toilets, emphasis on mechanised cleaning process, provision of washable aprons, additional dustbins, regular removal of garbage, spraying of insecticides, repairs to drains, etc. Moreover, cleanliness drives and surprise checks are conducted from time to time. Frequent announcements are made to seek the co-operation of the travelling public in keeping the station premises and tracks clean. A Budget Allocation of Rs. 200 crores has been made for passenger amenities for the year 2000-2001, which is an increase of 53.85% over the previous year. A sizeable portion of this allocation would be used for amenities like washable aprons, improved platform surfaces, provision of toilet facilities, which help maintain cleanliness at stations.

(d) There is no such report with the Railway administration.

Pendency of Railway Projects due to Financial Crisis

@2297. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased state:

(a) what is Government's reaction to the news-item "Dhanabhav ke karan atki chhch sau crore ke rail pariyojna", published in Punjab Kesri dated 25th July, 2000;

(b) what measures Government propose to take to check such circumstances in future; and

@ Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.